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TI .alpha.-Pyrrolidones

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SO Jpn. Kokai Tokkyo Koho, 4 pp.

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AB An electrolytic redn. of maleimides was carried out in a strong acid using Pb (or other metal having the same or higher H overvoltage than Pb) as a cathode and keeping the min. elec. potential of the cathode against a satd. calomel electrode at -1.3 to -2.0 V. E.g., N-methylmaleimide in a mixt. of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, MeOH, and H<sub>2</sub>O was subjected to an electrolytic redn. using Pb as a cathode and anode and keeping the elec. potential of the cathode to a satd. calomel electrode at -1.5V for 2 hr to give 67% N-methyl-.alpha.-pyrrolidone. Similarly prep'd. were .alpha.-pyrrolidone and N-cyclohexyl-.alpha.-pyrrolidone.

DT Patent

LA Japanese